

IN RECOGNITION OF BRENDA
SWAIN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 28, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Brenda Swain, a dedicated volunteer who has performed remarkable service to the greater Cape Cod community.

As a young child, Brenda's parents instilled in her a spirit of volunteerism that has remained with her to this day. Since graduating college, she has put serving others at the core of all she does. For twenty years, she worked as a substitute teacher, an early childhood educator, and director of a preschool daycare center. In Falmouth, however, Brenda is best-known for her steadfast and transformational leadership of the Falmouth Service Center.

On her first day, the Center was housed in a small room at the end of a shopping plaza with just thirty-five volunteers operating a food pantry and offering financial assistance. Today, after seventeen years of Brenda's guidance, the Falmouth Service Center has been transformed into an expansive resource for residents, providing access to health care, financial support, and food.

Under Brenda's leadership, the Falmouth Service Center now operates fourteen different programs and boasts six hundred volunteers. Over the years, Brenda worked to add numerous programs such as Falmouth Eats Together, a community-wide free meal, to the center's offerings. She created fresh markets in the Falmouth Public Schools and worked to bring a mobile dental clinic that comes once a month to the center. Brenda also developed a partnership with WE CAN—Women's Empowerment through Cape Area Networking—which uses the service center offices once a month, and constantly worked to expand the center's resources for Falmouth residents.

Madam Speaker, Brenda Swain has served as an unshakeable pillar supporting Falmouth and Cape Cod for her entire life. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Ms. Brenda Swain's remarkable career and commending her for her steadfast dedication to community service and volunteerism.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETTY
WHITE

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 28, 2022

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Betty White, who passed away on December 31, 2021, at the age of 99, three weeks before what would have been her 100th birthday. A longtime resident of California's 33rd Congressional District, Betty was a Hollywood icon and a devoted animal welfare advocate whose career in theater, film, television, and radio spanned eight decades. In that time, she earned numerous awards and accolades and endeared herself to audiences across America and around the world.

Betty was born on January 17, 1922, in Oak Park, Illinois, to Horace and Tess White. The family moved to Beverly Hills when Betty was

a child, and she graduated from Beverly Hills High School in 1939. Betty's entertainment career began as a recent graduate, when she took part in one of the first ever experimental television broadcasts. She put her career on pause because of World War II, when she served in the American Women's Voluntary Services, delivering supplies to soldiers stationed along the Santa Monica Mountains.

After the war, she dabbled in both radio and television, appearing in radio shows like *Blondie* and *This is Your FBI* and hosting the talk shows *Hollywood on Television* and *The Betty White Show*. She established herself as a force for justice on one of her eponymous shows, willing to stand up for what was right. After featuring Arthur Duncan, a Black tap dancer, on her nationally syndicated show, Betty received calls from television stations in the Jim Crow South to fire Duncan or risk being taken off the air. Rather than accede to racist demands, Betty invited him back three more times.

Though Betty had married twice before, it wasn't until her stints in the early 1960s on various game shows as a celebrity guest on *To Tell the Truth*, *I've Got a Secret*, and *What's My Line?* that she met her true love. After appearing on *Password*, she and host Allan Ludden got to know each other, and he eventually proposed. They married in 1963 and remained together until his death by stomach cancer in 1981. The couple had had no children of their own, but she helped raise Ludden's three sons and daughters from a previous marriage. Of Ludden, she said "I'll never get over him" and never remarried.

Betty played her best-known roles in the latter part of her career. She played Sue Ann Nivens on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* from 1973 to 1977 and Rose Nyland on *The Golden Girls* from 1985 to 1992. As Sue Ann, Betty was wily, crafty, and cunning behind her wide, beaming smile, which contrasted with Rose's naivete and innocence. Both roles helped her win Emmy Awards, of which she won eight in total: five Primetime, two Daytime, and a Los Angeles regional. She also won three American Comedy Awards, three Screen Actors Guild Awards, and a Grammy.

Appearances in a Super Bowl commercial for Snickers, 2009's romantic comedy *The Proposal*, and a guest host spot on *Saturday Night Live* reintroduced Betty to a new generation of film and television viewers, sparking a resurgence in her career that lasted well into her nineties. However, she repeatedly said over the years that show business was only a means to fund her other passion: animal welfare.

Betty grew up surrounded by animals, recounting how her family at one point owned 20 dogs. Such an upbringing cemented her love for all species at an early age. She produced and starred in *The Pet Set*, a syndicated talk show in which celebrity guests talked about their pets in the early 1970s. Betty also contributed and sat on the board of trustees of a host of animal welfare organizations, including the Morris Animal Foundation, Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, the American Humane Association, and the Fund for Animals.

Betty's support for the Los Angeles Zoo and its foundation dated back to the zoo's opening in 1966. In 1974, she joined The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association's Board of Trustees and hosted a television special alongside sev-

eral celebrity friends, including Mary Tyler Moore, Jimmy Stewart, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley. In 2006, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa honored Betty with the title of "Ambassador to the Animals," and the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers made her an honorary zookeeper in 2013. Throughout the years, Betty was seen at the zoo's charitable functions smiling alongside an assortment of animals, including pythons, owls, sloths, and giraffes.

Betty White's pioneering career brought laughter into the homes of millions and will continue to do so for generations to come. Her support for animal welfare over the years, which inspired thousands to carry on the torch of the cause after her death, also cannot be overstated. May her memory be a blessing.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUE GRIEP

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 28, 2022

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sue Griep as the recipient of the Blair County Chamber's prestigious Leadership Blair County Fellow Award.

This award was created in 1997 when the Leadership Blair County Steering Committee understood the need to recognize those who uphold their mission of leadership and stewardship towards the Blair County Community. While no small feat, Sue's efforts to benefit those around her have rippled through her neighbors, and her modesty only underlines the true selflessness of her dedication.

On behalf of the people of the 13th Congressional District, I am grateful to the Blair County Chamber for their environment that fosters community growth and success, and for constituents like Sue for their tireless efforts.

RECOGNIZING DR. NASIR AHMED

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 28, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the seminal contributions of Dr. Nasir Ahmed in the field of computer science, whose work on image processing underlies much of the video conferencing and photo sharing technology that we now take for granted—technology that has been essential to getting us through this pandemic.

Born in Bangalore, India, Dr. Ahmed immigrated to the United States in 1961 to pursue a masters and then a Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico. It was there that Dr. Ahmed met his wife, Esther Parente-Ahmed, whose love and support proved instrumental to Dr. Ahmed's career. Describing Esther, Dr. Ahmed said, "she helped me all through my career; she was always next to me."

After receiving his doctorate from the University of New Mexico, Dr. Ahmed became a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Kansas State University in 1968.